

## Save and Strengthen Social Security

### Senate Republicans are committed to passing Social Security reform this year

- A Social Security system that was designed for the world of 1935 will not work for future generations of Americans.
- Changes must be made, and the sooner we act, the more successful they will be.
- If we fail to act today, our children and our grandchildren will be faced with changes that are large, abrupt, and unpleasant.

### Senate Republicans think the problems facing Social Security are too important for partisan politics

- Chairman Grassley has held three Senate hearings on Social Security, and intends to present legislation for Committee action this summer.
- Senator Hagel and Senator Sununu have both introduced bills that offer long-term solvency for America's retirement security system.
- Nearly half of Americans say Congress needs to rebuild or make major changes in Social Security.
  - 46% of voters say the system needs major change (29%) or to be completely re-built (17%).
  - Voters understand the fundamental truth: Social Security is going to run out of money - 70% agree this will happen if the system is not reformed.

### Senate Republicans call on Democrats to face the facts and come to the table on reform

- This is not a time to draw a line in the sand - all ideas should be on the table.
- It is irresponsible for Democrats to block reforms that could help make Social Security solvent without offering ideas of their own.
- The Democrats don't have a plan. Their simple fix to roll back the tax cut for the top 1% of Americans would not make the system solvent.

*Source: Social Security Communications Working Group, Senate Republican Conference*

## Save and Strengthen Social Security

### Senate Republicans are committed to passing Social Security reform this year

- A Social Security system that was designed for the world of 1935 will not work for future generations of Americans.
- Changes must be made, and the sooner we act, the more successful they will be.
- If we fail to act today, our children and our grandchildren will be faced with changes that are large, abrupt, and unpleasant.

### Senate Republicans think the problems facing Social Security are too important for partisan politics

- Chairman Grassley has held three Senate hearings on Social Security, and intends to present legislation for Committee action this summer.
- Senator Hagel and Senator Sununu have both introduced bills that offer long-term solvency for America's retirement security system.
- Nearly half of Americans say Congress needs to rebuild or make major changes in Social Security.
  - 46% of voters say the system needs major change (29%) or to be completely re-built (17%).
  - Voters understand the fundamental truth: Social Security is going to run out of money - 70% agree this will happen if the system is not reformed.

### Senate Republicans call on Democrats to face the facts and come to the table on reform

- This is not a time to draw a line in the sand - all ideas should be on the table.
- It is irresponsible for Democrats to block reforms that could help make Social Security solvent without offering ideas of their own.
- The Democrats don't have a plan. Their simple fix to roll back the tax cut for the top 1% of Americans would not make the system solvent.

*Source: Social Security Communications Working Group, Senate Republican Conference*

## Save and Strengthen Social Security

### Senate Republicans are committed to passing Social Security reform this year

- A Social Security system that was designed for the world of 1935 will not work for future generations of Americans.
- Changes must be made, and the sooner we act, the more successful they will be.
- If we fail to act today, our children and our grandchildren will be faced with changes that are large, abrupt, and unpleasant.

### Senate Republicans think the problems facing Social Security are too important for partisan politics

- Chairman Grassley has held three Senate hearings on Social Security, and intends to present legislation for Committee action this summer.
- Senator Hagel and Senator Sununu have both introduced bills that offer long-term solvency for America's retirement security system.
- Nearly half of Americans say Congress needs to rebuild or make major changes in Social Security.
  - 46% of voters say the system needs major change (29%) or to be completely re-built (17%).
  - Voters understand the fundamental truth: Social Security is going to run out of money - 70% agree this will happen if the system is not reformed.

### Senate Republicans call on Democrats to face the facts and come to the table on reform

- This is not a time to draw a line in the sand - all ideas should be on the table.
- It is irresponsible for Democrats to block reforms that could help make Social Security solvent without offering ideas of their own.
- The Democrats don't have a plan. Their simple fix to roll back the tax cut for the top 1% of Americans would not make the system solvent.

*Source: Social Security Communications Working Group, Senate Republican Conference*

## Strengthening Social Security for Those in Need

### The President will work with Congress to make Social Security permanently solvent

- The American people understand that Social Security is headed for serious financial trouble.
- The President believes that it is our responsibility to improve the system by directing extra help to those most in need and making it a better deal for younger workers.
- Three goals for reform:
  - ensure that future generations receive benefits equal to or greater than today's seniors;
  - protect those who depend on Social Security the most;
  - and replace the empty promises being made to younger workers with real money.

### Background on the President's plan

- Future generations should receive benefits equal to or greater than the benefits that seniors receive today.
  - Millions of Americans depend on Social Security as a primary source of income.
  - As a matter of fairness, the fundamental promise of Social Security must be kept.
- Extra help should be provided to those future seniors who need it most.
  - Low-income workers should receive benefits that grow faster than inflation, and wealthier seniors' benefits should grow no faster than the rate of inflation.
  - If you work hard and pay into Social Security your entire life, you will not retire into poverty.
- Younger workers should have the option of putting a portion of their payroll taxes into a voluntary personal account which will allow them to build a nest egg that belongs to them.
  - This money gives workers an opportunity to receive a higher rate of return than the current system can provide.
  - Accounts should include an investment option that allows workers to invest in U.S. Treasury bonds, which have no risk

Source: White House Office of Communications

## Strengthening Social Security for Those in Need

### The President will work with Congress to make Social Security permanently solvent

- The American people understand that Social Security is headed for serious financial trouble.
- The President believes that it is our responsibility to improve the system by directing extra help to those most in need and making it a better deal for younger workers.
- Three goals for reform:
  - ensure that future generations receive benefits equal to or greater than today's seniors;
  - protect those who depend on Social Security the most;
  - and replace the empty promises being made to younger workers with real money.

### Background on the President's plan

- Future generations should receive benefits equal to or greater than the benefits that seniors receive today.
  - Millions of Americans depend on Social Security as a primary source of income.
  - As a matter of fairness, the fundamental promise of Social Security must be kept.
- Extra help should be provided to those future seniors who need it most.
  - Low-income workers should receive benefits that grow faster than inflation, and wealthier seniors' benefits should grow no faster than the rate of inflation.
  - If you work hard and pay into Social Security your entire life, you will not retire into poverty.
- Younger workers should have the option of putting a portion of their payroll taxes into a voluntary personal account which will allow them to build a nest egg that belongs to them.
  - This money gives workers an opportunity to receive a higher rate of return than the current system can provide.
  - Accounts should include an investment option that allows workers to invest in U.S. Treasury bonds, which have no risk

Source: White House Office of Communications

## Strengthening Social Security for Those in Need

### The President will work with Congress to make Social Security permanently solvent

- The American people understand that Social Security is headed for serious financial trouble.
- The President believes that it is our responsibility to improve the system by directing extra help to those most in need and making it a better deal for younger workers.
- Three goals for reform:
  - ensure that future generations receive benefits equal to or greater than today's seniors;
  - protect those who depend on Social Security the most;
  - and replace the empty promises being made to younger workers with real money.

### Background on the President's plan

- Future generations should receive benefits equal to or greater than the benefits that seniors receive today.
  - Millions of Americans depend on Social Security as a primary source of income.
  - As a matter of fairness, the fundamental promise of Social Security must be kept.
- Extra help should be provided to those future seniors who need it most.
  - Low-income workers should receive benefits that grow faster than inflation, and wealthier seniors' benefits should grow no faster than the rate of inflation.
  - If you work hard and pay into Social Security your entire life, you will not retire into poverty.
- Younger workers should have the option of putting a portion of their payroll taxes into a voluntary personal account which will allow them to build a nest egg that belongs to them.
  - This money gives workers an opportunity to receive a higher rate of return than the current system can provide.
  - Accounts should include an investment option that allows workers to invest in U.S. Treasury bonds, which have no risk

Source: White House Office of Communications